GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
WATER RESOURCES
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:2862
ANSWERED ON:03.09.2007
FLOOD CONTROL
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Will the Minister of WATER RESOURCES be pleased to state:

(a) whether large parts of the country were submerged due to unprecedented floods during the current monsoon season;

(b) if so, the details thereof indicating the extent of damages caused and the number of people affected therefrom, State-wise;

(c) whether any survey/assessment was conducted in the areas chronically affected by the flood;

(d) if so, the outcome thereof;

(e) whether the Government has set up National Flood Control Board and the prevailing flood control schemes have been reviewed;

(f) if so, the details thereof;

(g) the funds allocated to the affected states during the last three years and current year State-wise;

(h) the plan outlay earmarked for flood control in the Eleventh Plan; and

(i) the effective steps being taken to check the recurrent floods and ensure gainful utilization of the excess water?

Answer

MINISTER OF THE STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF WATER RESOURCES (SHRI JAI PRAKASH NARAYAN YADAV)

(a) & (b) During monsoon-2007, floods occurred in many parts of the country affecting more than 4.32 crore population in the states namely, Andhra Pradesh, Assam, Bihar, Chhattisgarh, Goa, Gujarat, Himachal Pradesh, Karnataka, Kerala, Madhya Pradesh, Orissa, Punjab, Rajasthan, Uttar Pradesh, West Bengal and Pondicherry. However, unprecendented floods have been experienced in Subernrekha river in Orissa, Jiabharali and Puthimari rivers in Assam and Ghaghara river in Uttar Pradesh where the rivers crossed the highest observed flood levels in the past. As per the report received from the State Revenue Authorities and the Ministry of Home Affairs, the total damages during monsoon-2007 have been assessed as Rs. 7325.88 crore. The details of State-wise damages caused and people affected are given in Annex-I.

(c) & (d) Ministry of Home Affairs have deputed central teams for assessment of flood situation and damages in the flood affected states.

(e) No Sir.

(f) Does not arise.

(g) Flood Management being State subject, the flood control schems are planned, investigated and implemented by the State Governments with their own funds. The assistance rendered by the Central Government is technical, catalytical and promotional in nature. However, the Central Government has been providing financial assistance to the flood affected States under various plan schemes in order to enable them to take up flood management works in critical areas. The details of central assistance released by the Government of India to various State Governments for taking up flood control measures at critical areas during the last three years are given in Annex-II.

(h) The plan outlay for XI Plan has not yet been intimated by the Planning Commission.

(i) The Government of India has set up Ganga Flood Control Commission (GFCC); which has prepared comprehensive master plans for flood control measures in Ganga basin States. The Government of India has also set up Brahmaputra Board by an Act of Parliament; which has prepared comprehensive master plans for flood control in Brahmaputra and Barak Valley. Besides, the Government of India also constituted various Committees from time to time to examine the causes of recurring floods in various parts of the country and to suggest remedial measures to mitigate this problem.

As per the direction of Hon`ble Prime Minister, a Task Force on Flood Management / Erosion Control was set up in August, 2004 to

look into the problem of recurring floods in Assam & neighbouring States as well as Bihar, West Bengal and Eastern Uttar Pradesh. The Task Force submitted its report in December, 2004 and recommended various measures for flood management.

The Government of India is also having continuous dialogue with the Government of Nepal for construction of large storage dams/schemes in Nepal on rivers flowing from Nepal as a long term solution to flood mitigation.